

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /051 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:SMCCALL:RVC

APPROVED BY EUR/SOV:MGARRISON

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P 111315Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR

SUBJECT: ILLNESS OF KOSYGIN

FOLLOWING RECEIVED ON WIRELESS FROM TOKYO KYODO, AUGUST
11 SENT FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

QUOTE: MOSCOW, AUGUST 10 KYODO--SOVIET PREMIER ALEKSEY
KOSYGIN IS PRESENTLY RECUPERATING FROM ILLNESS AND WILL BE
UNABLE TO MEET WITH THE MEMBERS OF A VISITING MISSION OF
THE JAPANESE FEDERATION OF ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS
(KEIDANREN), SOURCES CLOSE TO THE MISSION REVEALED TUESDAY.

THEY SAID THEY WERE INFORMED BY SOVIET GOVERNMENT AUTHORI-
TIES ABOUT KOSYGIN'S INABILITY TO MEET WITH THE MISSION
MEMBERS DUE TO HIS ILLNESS.

THE SOVIET PREMIER HAS NOT APPEARED IN PUBLIC FOR NEARLY A
MONTH AND THERE HAD BEEN RUMORS IN MOSCOW THAT HE MIGHT BE
SUFFERING FROM ILLNESS.

THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME, HOWEVER, THAT SOVIET AUTHORITIES
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HAD DISCLOSED THAT KOSYGIN WAS ILL.

THE SOVIET PREMIER LED HIS COUNTRY'S DELEGATION TO A
GENERAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF MUTUAL ECONOMIC
ASSISTANCE (COMECON) IN BERLIN EARLY IN JULY.

HE DID NOT MAKE AN APPEARANCE ON JULY 15 WHEN A CEREMONY
WAS HELD IN THE KREMLIN FOR SIGNING OF THE NEW STOCKHOLM
APPEAL. END QUOTE. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HEALTH
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE199057
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SMCCALL:RVC
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760309-0091
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760863/aaaacdhs.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 APR 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <23 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ILLNESS OF KOSYGIN FOLLOWING RECEIVED ON WIRELESS FROM TOKYO KYODO, AUGUST 11 SENT FOR YOUR INFORMATION
TAGS: PFOR, UR, (KOSYGIN, ALEKSEY)
To: MOSCOW
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006